

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-19 are pending. Claims 1-4, 6, 7, 9-11, 13-16 and 18 are amended by way of the present amendment. Additional recitations in independent Claims 1, 10 and 14 are supported by the present specification at page 6, lines 1-15, and Fig. 1, for example. Claims 1-4, 6, 7, 9-11, 13-16 and 18 are also amended to correct minor informalities; to clarify subject matter recited; and to better comply with U.S. claim drafting practice. Applicants submit that no new matter is added.

In the outstanding Office Action Claim 1 was objected to because of informalities; and Claims 1-19 were rejected as being obvious over Schwoegler (U.S. Patent No. 6,590,529) in view of Densmore (U.S. Patent No. 6,591,305) and Shelton et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,848,378, herein "Shelton").

First, Claim 1 is amended to delete the word "and" to address the objection thereto. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of the objection to Claim 1 on that basis.

Addressing the above-noted rejection, that rejection is traversed by the present response.

Amended Claim 1 is directed to a method for streaming dynamic weather content simultaneously to a plurality of end user clients in a wide area communication system. The method according to amended Claim 1 now includes, among other steps, ***the steps performed at the centralized weather content server*** as follows:

collecting dynamic weather content continuously and ***directly from a plurality of weather stations positioned in different localities; storing the dynamic weather content in the centralized weather content server; ...***

transmitting the selected particular dynamic weather content ***directly from the centralized weather content server*** and simultaneously to each end user client.

Referring to the non-limiting embodiment of the present invention shown in Fig. 1, the Content Switcher 20 (i.e., the centralized weather content server) collects dynamic weather content continuously and directly from the Content Sources 40, 42, 44 (i.e., the weather stations) positioned in different localities. The collected dynamic weather content is stored in the Content Switcher 20. Then, in response to a request for a dynamic weather content from an end user client, the Content Switcher 20 selects particular dynamic weather content and transmits it directly from the Content Switcher 20.

Accordingly, the method as recited in amended Claim 1 provides an infrastructure by which dynamic weather content is efficiently collected in real time from weather stations positioned in different localities; stored in the centralized weather content server; and efficiently delivered to respective end users directly from the centralized weather content server.

It is respectfully submitted that the cited references of Schwoegler, Densmore, and Shelton, either taken individually or in combination, do not teach all the elements recited in amended Claim 1.

In this regard, the Office Action recognizes that Schwoegler fails to disclose the plurality of weather stations positioned in different localities. Nowhere does Schwoegler teach or suggest the steps of collecting dynamic weather content continuously and ***directly from a plurality of weather stations positioned in different localities; storing the dynamic weather content in the centralized weather content server***; and transmitting the selected particular dynamic weather content ***directly from the centralized weather content server*** and simultaneously to each end user client.

With regard to Shelton, Shelton is directed to a computer-based system for collecting and presenting real-time weather information,<sup>1</sup> and describes features of the system as follows:<sup>2</sup>

A second function of the *WEATHERCENTER modules* is *to transmit data from the Weather Stations to the WEATHERSERVER database 2 via network 3. ...*

A third function of the *WEATHERCENTER modules* is *to accept requests for data* from their attached weather presenting modules, such as 6 and 7, and *make the requested data available*. WEATHERCENTER accomplishes this *by both maintaining a local WEATHERCENTER database of weather data collected by that WEATHERCENTER and by transmitting requests to WEATHERSERVER 2 for data not collected locally*. This *local database* is a generally *a subset of the data found in the WEATHERSERVER 2* and may, for example, *contain data only relevant to a particular number of cities*. The WEATHERCENTER modules 4 independently maintain a current local database by issuing queries to the WEATHERSERVER 2 for needed data. Then, as that data is requested by a presentation module, such as 7, the data is locally available.

As described above, the WEATHERCENTER, at which a request for data from an end user client is received, serves as a local database and as a subset of the WEATHERSERVER. In Shelton, The WEATHERCENTER collects only local weather data from the local Weather Stations, and stores limited weather data only relevant to a particular number of cities. Thus, when the WEATHERCENTER does not locally store weather data requested by an end user client, the WEATHERCENTER cannot directly deliver the requested weather data. Instead, the WEATHERCENTER communicates with the WEATHERSERVER and retrieves the requested weather data from the WEATHERSERVER and merely transfers it to the end user client.

Therefore, Shelton does not provide the infrastructure by which dynamic weather content is efficiently managed by the centralized weather content server, as recited in

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<sup>1</sup> See Abstract of Shelton.

<sup>2</sup> See Shelton at column 7, lines 27-29 and lines 36-50.

amended Claim 1. Nowhere does Shelton teach or suggest the steps of collecting dynamic weather content continuously and *directly from a plurality of weather stations positioned in different localities; storing the dynamic weather content in the centralized weather content server*; and transmitting the selected particular dynamic weather content *directly from the centralized weather content server* and simultaneously to each end user client.

Densmore does not cure this deficiency with regard to amended Claim 1, as Densmore is merely asserted for its alleged disclosure of having client objects that periodically request downloads.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that no matter how Schwoegler, Densmore and Shelton are combined, the combination neither teaches nor suggests all the elements of amended Claim 1. Although of differing statutory class and/or scope, each of the other pending Claims 2-19, as currently written, also patentably define over Schwoegler in view of Densmore and Shelton for at least the same reasons discussed above with regard to amended Claim 1.

Consequently, Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of the rejection of Claims 1-19.

As no other issues are pending in this application, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is now in condition for formal allowance, and it is hereby respectfully requested that this case be passed to issue.


Respectfully submitted,

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